

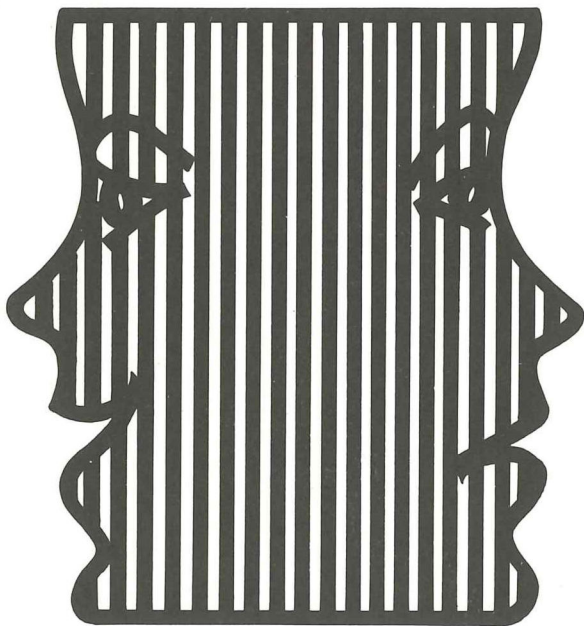
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

FACULTY OF MUSIC

OPERA DEPARTMENT

The Prisoners Play

Composed by John Rea



Libretto by Paul Woodruff

MACMILLAN THEATRE

EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING

MAY 12 – 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

MAY 14, 15, 16, 17 – 2 p.m.

Sponsored by the Canadian Opera Junior Women's Committee 1973

Program courtesy London Records of Canada Limited

THE PRISONERS PLAY

SYNOPSIS

A rehearsal is in progress for an opera about ULYSSES and CIRCE. The BOSS (Director) and PAUL (Music Coach) see that ULYSSES is properly costumed. Then they guide the singers through the opening scenes.

On his voyage home after the Trojan Wars, ULYSSES and his friends have stopped at CIRCE'S island. While ULYSSES watched the ship, the friends went into the magic forest for food and water. The first scene shows ULYSSES waiting for their return. EURYLOCHUS, one of the friends, returns to report that the goddess CIRCE has captured the other three friends, BOSSITES, POLITES, and ELPENOR. After some prodding by the BOSS, ULYSSES sets out the EURYLOCHUS to rescue his friends.

Meanwhile at her pavilion, CIRCE is holding the friends prisoners by magic. The youngest prisoner, ELPENOR, is hard at work, while CIRCE'S pupil LYDIA is busy practicing magic. When ELPENOR rebels, CIRCE puts him under a spell that makes him foolish and happy to go back to work. CIRCE tells LYDIA of her plans to capture ULYSSES and put him also to work.

When CIRCE leaves, LYDIA discovers the counterspell, the magic sentence that ELPENOR must say to free himself from CIRCE'S magic. As LYDIA urges the spellbound boy to say the sentence, ULYSSES himself arrives with EURYLOCHUS. CIRCE reappears and tries to lay a magic spell on him, but ULYSSES says the counterspell by accident, and is unharmed.

To everyone's surprise, ULYSSES and CIRCE fall in love and have a banquet, forgetting all about the prisoners.

ELPENOR saves the day by freeing himself and rescuing the rest of ULYSSES' friends. The friends are anxious to leave CIRCE'S island and start the trip home, but ULYSSES wants to stay on as CIRCE'S prisoner. CIRCE, however, has found that she wants a friend, not a prisoner. She orders him to go home, then joins him in a farewell dance. The prisoners celebrate their homeward journey with a Bacchanalian dance. As the dancing gets wilder CIRCE leaves and the magic forest disappears leaving ULYSSES and his friends on an empty stage.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....	Douglas Holder
Stage Manager	Fred Perruzza
Set Construction	David Grinstead
	Frank Galle
Property Construction.....	Yvan LaLiberte
Wardrobe.....	Carol Anne Muncaster
	Margaret Peters
	Marjorie Woodbridge
Scenic Art	Ed Kotanen
Electrics	Doug Holder
	Frank Galle (operator)
Assistants:	Donald Clark
Susan Eagle	Paul Frey
John Keane	Lindsay Kerrigan
Joe Smith	Allan Stewart
James Anderson	Reg Richard
Lester Muller	David Perkins

THE PRISONERS PLAY

Conductor	Harvey Sachs
Stage Director	John Leberg
Set Designer	Ed Kotanen
Costume Designer	Carol Anne Muncaster
Lighting Designer	Douglas Holder

CAST

ULYSSES	Bruce Kelly
CIRCE	Jill Pert
LYDIA	Diane Loeb
ELPENOR	Penny Speedie
EURYLOCHUS	Barney Ingram Jr.
BOSSITES – BOSS	Robert Vigod
POLITES – PAUL	Glyn Evans
Wardrobe Mistress	Carol Holder
Handmaidens	Debora Taylor
	Marta Middleton
Tree	Briane Nasimok
Stagehands	Technical Staff

OPERA DEPARTMENT

Chairman Ezra Schabes

Music Staff

Music Director	Ernesto Barbini
Head Coach – Conductor	W. James Craig
Vocal Coaches	George Brough, Tibor Polgar
	Michael Evans

Stage Directors

Richard Pearlman
Constance Fisher
Herman Geiger-Torel
Heinar Piller

Technical Staff

Director	Douglas Holder
Assistant	David Grimstead
Secretary	Carol Anne Muncaster
Make-up	Alexander Szlavnic

Administrative Staff

Department Secretary	Constance Fisher
Librarian	Bruce Kelly

ORCHESTRA

Violin

Fujiko Imajishi*

Barbara Schneider

Viola

Ann Armin

Cello

Jennifer Jahn

Flute

Virginia Markson, Piccolo

Anne Keefer

Musical Preparation:

George Brough

Michael Evans

William Shookhoff

Oboe

Lawrence Cherney

Bassoon

James McKay

Piano, Celeste

Michael Evans

Mary Nan Dutka

Percussion

Allan Beard

Stewart Hoffman

Marty Frankel

*Concert Master

CREDITS

The Opera Department wishes to express its appreciation to the following for their assistance and co-operation.

The Chalmers Foundation

J. Fuller Lighting

National Ballet

Canadian Opera Company

Montreal Textiles

The Canada Council

Toronto Musicians Association and I.A.T.S.E.

Canadian Music Centre

Sapphire Stage Rigging

Malabar Costume House



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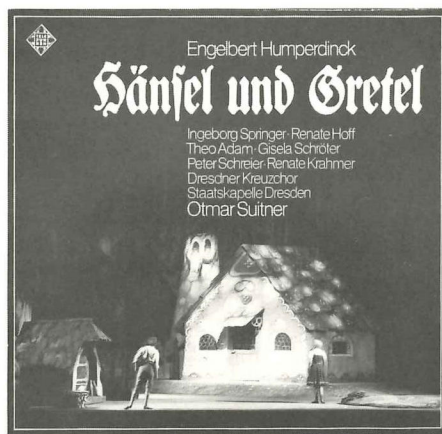
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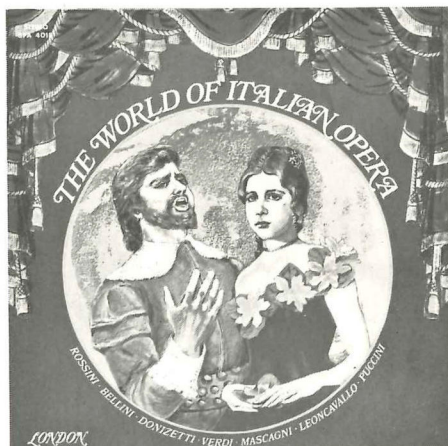


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